

ROLL OF CITY HALL'S BUILDERS.

HERE ARE THE TABLETS FOUND ON THE COPING STONE.

Architect Allen's Discovery Really Foretold by Janitor Kress Twenty Years Ago—Steps Taken Five Years Ago to Have the Stones Moved—The Work to Be Done Now.

The two coping stones bearing the names of the members of the building committee and others connected with the erection of the City Hall which were found the other day by W. M. Allen, borough President Cantor's consulting architect, while he was prowling around the roof, will be moved down to the main corridor of the building and set up in the wall as a mural tablet as soon as possible.

It has been suggested that the moving be done formally, in commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the City Hall in 1803, but that hasn't been definitely decided on yet.

Now, Marty Kress, who as janitor of the City Hall has a right to say something and ought to be heard, declares that Mr. Allen's discovery is no discovery at all. Marty, according to his own statement, knew that the stones were there more than twenty years ago, and he has been using his influence ever since to have them taken down.

When it is considered, they said, "that the city of New York, from its history, situation and increasing opulence, stands unrivaled; when we reflect that as a commercial city it has a superior standing, our imports and exports exceeding those of any other city, we certainly ought, in this pleasing state of things, to possess at least a public office which shall be the many low erected in Philadelphia and elsewhere."

It should be remembered that the building is intended to endure for ages, that it is to be a monument to the city of New York, and that the same influence will be extended to property far beyond the limits and that in the course of a very few years it is destined to be a center of wealth and property of this city. A building so constructed will do honor to the founders and will be commensurate with our flourishing condition.

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John Le Maire, fairly well preserved, and at the other the names of the builders, as follows: John McComb, Jr., architect; Abraham Labagh, master stonecutter; Anthony Steinbach, and Arthur Smith, master masons; Joseph Newton, master carpenter; and James Holston, clerk. The names of some of these men are scarcely decipherable.

The tablet at the other end of the coping bears the names of the Aldermen who constituted the building committee. It is better preserved, all the letters being distinct except in the word "Messrs," which has lost the "r" and the "s." The Aldermen whose names are on the stone were John Moss, Nicholas Fish, Isaac S. Douglass, William J. Waldron and Augustus H. Lawrence. As is shown in the accompanying illustration, their surnames only are on the tablet.

This building committee is, of course, of every scene, life and interest in the City Hall library, and is not uninteresting in the light of developments that have occurred since.

When it is considered, they said, "that the city of New York, from its history, situation and increasing opulence, stands unrivaled; when we reflect that as a commercial city it has a superior standing, our imports and exports exceeding those of any other city, we certainly ought, in this pleasing state of things, to possess at least a public office which shall be the many low erected in Philadelphia and elsewhere."

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INFORMATION
REGARDING ANY HOTEL OR RAILROAD TRIP
will be furnished by writing to
THE SUN INFORMATION BUREAU,
Room 317, Temple Court,
New York.

SUMMER RESORTS.
NEW YORK.
Catskill Mountains.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL,
HEALTHFUL AND PICTURESQUE
MOUNTAIN REGION IN THIS
SECTION OF THE COUNTRY,
AND THE MOST ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PEOPLE OF GREATER
NEW YORK, IS THE



Catskill Mountains

THERE IS ONLY ONE STANDARD GAUGE RAILROAD THAT REACHES ALL THE HIGH ALTITUDES OF THIS POPULAR SUMMER RESORT, AND THERE IS ONLY ONE THROUGH CAR LINE WITH LUXURIOUS DRAWING ROOM CARS AND MODERN DAY COACHES WITHOUT CHANGE TO ALL POINTS IN THE HAUNTS OF RIP VAN WINKLE.

The Ulster & Delaware R. R.

OFFERS THIS SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC WITH ITS SUMMER SCHEDULE IN EFFECT JUNE 14th, 1903.

3½ HOURS TO THE HEART OF THE CATSKILLS WITHOUT CHANGE OF CARS.

THE COTTAGE LIFE, THE LARGE HOTELS, THE BOARDING HOUSE, THE FARM HOUSE, ALL LOCATED IN THIS DELIGHTFUL REGION, PROVIDE A SUMMER HOME WITHIN THE MEANS OF ALL. IT IS A SANITARIUM FOR EVERYBODY AND A PARADISE FOR CHILDREN.

The West Shore R. R. will sell excursion tickets on May 29th and 30th, via Ulster & Delaware R. R., to all points in the Catskill Mountains, at one fare for round trip, tickets good to return on any train to June 1st, inclusive.

SEND EIGHT CENTS POSTAGE FOR ILLUSTRATED SUMMER BOOK, WITH MAP OF THE CATSKILLS AND COMPLETE LIST OF HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES.

N. A. SIMS,
GENERAL PASSENGER AGENT.
RODOUT, N. Y.

laws was flagrant, and antagonism was inevitable. Corruption in the imposition of direct taxes, like that in the custom houses, was reduced to an effective system.

One of the most serious problems which confronted the Government of Intervention was the adjustment of taxes upon a basis which would provide a fairly adequate revenue without bearing unduly upon the people.

The first step taken was an adjustment of the insular tariff. Under the Spanish system there existed a preferential rate upon articles of possible import from Spain which gave to that country almost an absolute monopoly upon such articles, while the tariff upon other goods was so high that they were not produced or not some of the articles were produced at a cost of production at an exorbitant rate.

By an executive order, issued from Washington on Dec. 13, 1898, the tariff formerly applying only to Spanish wares was applied to all imports of the character specified, and the tariff on articles not possible of production in Spain was scaled to a reasonable basis.

This placed all countries on a competitive basis. Cuban trade upon an absolute equality with that of any other country was concerned. Naturally, inequalities and undesirable results were developed under the operation of this tariff. It was at best, only an expedient applied for the purpose of bridging an intermediate period. Early in 1900 a revision was ordered, and in 1900 a revision was put into effect on June 1st, 1900.

This revision was not general or radical in classification, although it was understood that a thorough reconstruction was eminently desirable. The same tariff, except for a few minor modifications, is in operation to-day. No preferences are shown to any country, and its average rate of duties imposed is about 22 per cent. *ad valorem*. Its effect upon the total revenues, as compared with its predecessor, is little, if at all, perceptible.

Inequalities and objectionable features still remaining in undue measure, a commission was appointed in March, 1901, to mission to those for whose election preparatory work was being made. Some of the recommendations of this commission were, however, immediately adopted. These effected reductions upon sugar machinery, agricultural implements, railway materials and coffee. No change of the Cuban tariff has been introduced by the Cuban Government, and the income from that source has not altered materially from the sum received during the American occupation.

Radical changes were made by the intervening Government in the department of internal revenues. The citizenship tax was promptly abolished, and soon afterwards the *consumo de ganancia* was done away with. It is of interest to note, in connection with the latter, that while it was prominent in the list of general grievances during the days of its operation, it had not been abolished more than a few weeks before a restoration of the regular municipal treasuries, and officials had no money for either public uses or for the payment of their own salaries.

For this difficulty was adjusted by the very questionable system of appropriations to the municipal treasuries from the general fund. It was a makeshift of insular funds. It was a makeshift of insular funds. It was a makeshift of insular funds.